

## **News Release**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Fort Wayne site selected for federal evaluation

BUFFALO, N.Y.--The former Joslyn Manufacturing and Supply Company in Fort Wayne, Ind. is being evaluated for inclusion in the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP), because of possible impacts from its involvement in the early atomic energy program.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Buffalo District began the first phase of a Preliminary Assessment in April to determine whether or not the site at 2302 Taylor Street is eligible for the program. FUSRAP is a federal program established to identify and, if necessary, address potential contamination at sites used during the nation's early atomic energy program. Site and document reviews indicate that there is no imminent threat to human health or the environment, but the Corps will perform the assessment to ensure the site will not pose a future risk. This study will be conducted in accordance with Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liabilities Act (CERCLA) guidance.

A previous study in 1976, the Oak Ridge National Laboratory showed the site was in compliance with health and safety guidelines applicable at that time.

Joslyn Manufacturing and Supply Company used the facility to machine uranium billets into metal rods between 1943 and 1952. That activity resulted in possible residual radiological impacts on portions of the property.

"The Joslyn Manufacturing Site has been considerably developed since the time of the contract with the Department of Energy. However, several of the buildings used in the machining of uranium billets still exist and have been refurbished. Initial scans indicate there might be residual impacts in some inaccessible areas, such as under cement floors or between walls," said David Romano, project manager.

In February and March of 2004, Radiation Safety Services Incorporated, performed a limited radiological survey for Fort Wayne Steel Corp., the current owner of the site. This survey was performed with the help of current employer's knowledge of the Atomic Energy Commission and the Manhattan Engineer District operations. Based on the results of this survey, RSSI concluded that impacted areas still remained. State regulators were informed and the U.S. Department of Energy began the process for reevaluating the site.

A comprehensive review of existing information, including historical documents and recent surveys, and a site visit serve as the basis for the Preliminary Assessment. No intrusive sampling is anticipated.

CERCLA outlines the steps that must be taken to reach a final decision as to whether or not a site requires clean-up under the FUSRAP program. The CERCLA process also requires open communication and involvement among the Corps, the stakeholders and the community.

The Corps welcomes interested citizens who would like to be kept appraised of project and to be added to the FUSRAP mailing list. If you are so inclined, please call the Buffalo District at 1-800-833-6390. Letters may be addressed to:

US Army Corps of Engineers, Buffalo District Attention: FUSRAP Joslyn Manufacturing Site 1776 Niagara Street Buffalo NY 14207

Additional information regarding FUSRAP and the Joslyn Manufacturing Site can be found at the Buffalo District webpage: www.lrb.usace.army.mil/fusrap

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